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Security Council

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Statement by the President of the Security Council

At the 7112th meeting of the Security Council, held on 14 February 2014, in connection with the Council's consideration of the item entitled "Cooperation between the United Nations and regional and subregional organizations in maintaining international peace and security", the President of the Security Council made the following statement on behalf of the Council:

"The Security Council recalls the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations, and reaffirms its primary responsibility under the Charter for the maintenance of international peace and security.

"The Security Council reiterates that cooperation between the United Nations and regional and subregional organizations and arrangements in matters relating to the maintenance of international peace and security, and consistent with Chapter VIII of the Charter of the United Nations, can improve collective security.

"The Security Council welcomes the briefing of the European Union High Representative for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy, Catherine Ashton, and commends the significant contribution that the European Union makes in support of the maintenance of international peace and security.

"The Security Council commends the European Union's involvement in international negotiations and mediation, in particular:

"(a) The Security Council welcomes the 24 November 2013 Joint Plan of Action agreed by the E3+3 and Iran that entered into force on 20 January 2014 and notes the European Union's coordinating role in reaching an agreement on the Joint Plan. The Security Council emphasises the importance of further diplomatic efforts to find a comprehensive negotiated solution that would ensure Iran's nuclear programme will be exclusively peaceful, in accordance with the UN Security Council resolutions.

"(b) The Security Council welcomes the European Union's significant contribution to the economic development and stabilization of the Western Balkans region in order to further promote democracy, economic prosperity, stability and regional cooperation, in accordance with the relevant UNSC resolutions and calls on all the parties for further constructive engagement.

"The Security Council welcomes the European Union's comprehensive approach to the maintenance of international peace and security, and commends the European Union and its Member States for their ongoing

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commitment to international peacekeeping, peacebuilding, humanitarian assistance, and financial as well as logistical support, in particular:

"(a) The Security Council commends European Union's role in combating piracy off the coast of Somalia, notably through Operation ATALANTA and through EUCAP Nestor development of sea-going maritime security capacities in the region, and in this regard the Council commends the European Union's current chairmanship of the Contact Group on Piracy off the coast of Somalia (CGPCS). The Security Council welcomes the European Union's effort to contribute to the stabilization of Somalia, in particular by training Somali security forces through the European Union Training Mission for Somalia, and its significant contribution to the African Union's mission in Somalia (AMISOM).

"(b) The Security Council welcomes the strong engagement of the European Union in the Central African Republic, notably its humanitarian assistance, its financial contribution to the deployment of the African-led International Support Mission to the Central African Republic (MISCA), as well as the decision to establish a temporary operation to support MISCA. The Council notes the importance of coordination mechanisms between UN Integrated Peacebuilding Office in the Central African Republic (BINUCA) and MISCA and the European Union operation in the CAR.

"(c) The Security Council welcomes the European Union's support for the objectives and missions of the United Nations in Mali and the broader Sahel region, as set out in the United Nations Integrated Strategy for the Sahel, notably through the work of the European Union Training Mission (EUTM-Mali) in cooperation with the United Nations Mission in Mali (MINUSMA), as well as its broader efforts in the region, through the EU Strategy for Security and Development for the Sahel and the EUCAP SAHEL Niger Mission.

"The Security Council notes the extensive co-operation between the European Union and the United Nations, in particular:

"(a) The Security Council welcomes the European Union's significant humanitarian assistance to the affected people in Syria and in neighbouring countries, and welcomes its timely in-kind support to the rapid establishment of the OPCW-UN Joint Mission for the Elimination of the Chemical Weapons Programme of the Syrian Arab Republic. The Security Council and the European Union reiterate their shared objectives in promoting and facilitating the political solution to the Syrian conflict based on the full implementation of the Geneva Communiqué of 30 June 2012.

"(b) The Security Council notes the European Union's role in the Middle East Quartet Principals meeting held in Munich on 1 February 2014 and reiterates its commitment to a just, lasting and comprehensive peace in the Middle East.

"(c) The Security Council welcomes the European Union's contribution in promoting security, governance and development in Afghanistan, in particular the assistance for the development of the Afghan National Police and rule of law institutions accomplished through the European Union police mission (EUPOL Afghanistan), and the European Gendarmerie Force (EGF).

"The Security Council commends the European Union's role in supporting the United Nations operations in the areas of mutual concern, in particular:

"(a) The Security Council welcomes the ongoing cooperation in strengthening the United Nation's response in promoting development cooperation, promotion and protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms.

"(b) The Security Council recognizes the valuable support of the European Union on the protection of civilians in armed conflicts, in particular its work on protecting women and children affected by armed conflict, as well as its engagement to the prevention and protection from sexual violence and its support for the critical role that women play in all peace and security efforts, including those to prevent and resolve conflict and mitigate its impact.

"(c) The Security Council recalls that justice and rule of law are of key importance for promoting and maintaining peace, stability and development. In this regard, the Security Council highlights that the European Union can contribute to accountability through support for enhancing the capacity of the national justice systems, as appropriate, and through cooperation with international mechanisms, courts and tribunals, including the International Criminal Court.

"The Security Council welcomes the close cooperation between the United Nations and the European Union and encourages both organizations to further strengthen their institutional relations and strategic partnership, including through regular briefings by the European Union High Representative for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy to the Security Council."